

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
ASC TELECOM, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF )  
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN )  
SOUTH DAKOTA )

ORDER GRANTING  
CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORITY

TC97-197

On December 19, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from ASC Telecom, Inc. (ASC). On April 30, 1998, the Commission received an amended application from ASC.

ASC proposes to become a reseller of interexchange telecommunications services. ASC intends to provide operator services to end-users primarily through the hospital industry and the payphone industry. A proposed tariff was filed by ASC. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On December 23, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of January 9, 1998, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled May 12, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered ASC's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that ASC not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that ASC has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. ASC has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves ASC's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that ASC not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that ASC's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that ASC not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that ASC shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1998.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u>Helaine Koko</u>
Date: <u>5/26/98</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder  
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner